

Application No.: 10/590,596
Amendment Dated: February 24, 2012
Reply to Office Action of: January 11, 2012

MAT-8894US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9, 11 and 13-16 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 13 and 14 are rejected. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 11, 15 and 16 are allowed and that claims 1, 2, 4-7, 13 and 14 would be allowable if the Examiner's suggested amendment to claim 1 is incorporated.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to applicants' representative during the telephone interview of February 23, 2012. During that interview the basis for Advisory Action of February 14, 2012 was discussed. Applicants' representative noted that the claims had been amended on February 9, 2012, in response to the Final Office Action in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection. That amendment was not entered by the Examiner and an Advisory Action issued on February 14, 2012. Applicants' representative also inquired as to the propriety of an Advisory Action rather than a telephone call to applicants' representative to address a minor antecedent basis problem with respect to dependent claim 13 indicated in the Advisory Action. No other issues or problems were indicted in the Advisory Action. The Examiner graciously agreed that if a formal response was filed addressing the antecedent basis issue in claim 13 (as well as the other amendments from the Amendment After Final) that the response would be entered without the necessity to file a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a complete amendment addressing the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections of the Final Office Action and the claim 13 issue raised for the first time in the Advisory Action.

Rejections under §112

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the Examiner's proposed language and respectfully submit therefore that claim 1 is allowable. Claim 13 is amended for antecedent basis purposes in view of the Examiner's suggested change to claim 1.

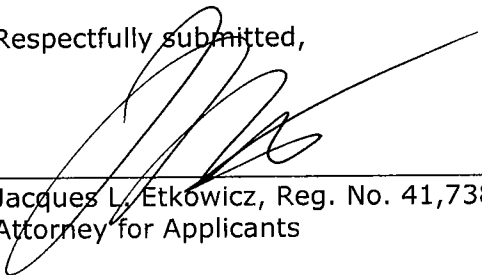
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Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 13 and 14 are likewise allowable as indicated by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned if any questions remain that can be easily address in a telephone conversation.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: February 24, 2012

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